

Parents Can Prepare Youngsters For First Day in Kindergarten

Parents whose children will be entering kindergarten for the first time this month can begin now to help their youngsters get off to a good start on their educational life, suggests Los Angeles' superintendent of schools.

"Kindergarten is one of a child's most important years," said Dr. Jack P. Crowther. "In many instances, kindergarten is the start of a child's education—a life and can make or break his attitude toward school."

Citing ways in which parents can help their children get the most out of kindergarten, Dr. Crowther said:

"Conversations, good health and safety habits, information about himself, knowing what to expect at school and varied experi-

ences all are important to a child's success at school."

ONE WAY parents can help their children, he explained, is to use complete sentences when talking to their child and to answer his questions simply and truthfully.

"Take time to listen to what he has to say. Plan many first-hand experiences of the world around him, such as trips to the market, post office or zoo. Talk informally about these experiences. The more experiences a child has, the more he will have to talk about," the superintendent said.

He also recommends developing good sleeping and eating habits for youngsters.

"GOOD nutrition is important for a healthy body. A child this age needs about 12 hours of sleep each night," he said. A calm, quiet time should precede bedtime in order to avoid overstimulation. Television just before bedtime is stimulating, but reading a story to a child can be most helpful."

Dr. Crowther emphasizes that parents should set a good example of proper safety habits for their kindergarten youngster.

"Teach your child how to cross at corners or use crosswalks and to look in all directions before stepping off the curb. Plan a safe route to school with your child—even if it may be longer," he advised.

"THE SAFEST route, he added is one which includes the use of intersections where there are signals or

where crossing guards are available. Parents should walk this route with their child several times until it becomes familiar to him.

Dr. Crowther further suggests that parents explain to their kindergarten child that he will not learn to read or write the first day at school.

"Your child will do many interesting things in preparation for reading. Parents can help by reading to their child, by taking him to the public library often and by teaching him how to handle books," he said.

HE BELIEVES a 5-year-old adjusts to school more easily if he starts to school from a happy, relaxed atmosphere.

"Arrange for your child to have plenty of time for dressing, eating a good breakfast and taking care of his toiletry needs. Practice habits of cleanliness—such as flushing the toilet and washing his hands. In school, the word 'lavatory' is generally used," Dr. Crowther noted.

He stresses that children should know their full name, address and telephone number well enough to repeat when necessary and also should know the names of their parents or guardian.

IN ADDITION, youngsters should be able to care for their personal needs, such as toileting, putting on and taking off coats and sweaters and caring for toys and materials they use.

"Knowing these things will help the child when he is with a group of children

of the same age," Dr. Crowther maintained.

He advises that a child's clothing should be simple so he can dress himself, button, unbutton, zip and unzip himself.

Clothes should be durable so a youngster may fully enjoy all the activities of kindergarten without being too concerned about his clothes," Dr. Crowther said.

"All removable clothing, such as sweaters, coats and boots, should be marked plainly with the child's full name."

HE POINTS out that kindergarten should be an exciting and worthwhile experience for a child.

"Help your child get off to a good start," he urged, "and he will always be grateful to you."

An estimated 54,500 pupils are expected to enroll this fall at Los Angeles 435 elementary schools. To be eligible for kindergarten, pupils by state law must be 5 years old by Dec. 1. Because of a shift to an annual promotion policy, students no longer will be able to enter kindergarten at mid-year.

Los Angeles Schools Offer Adult Classes

Adults wishing to continue their education at the high school level will have a wide variety of classes to choose from this fall when the semester gets under way in 29 Los Angeles community adult schools.

Dr. William Johnston, as-

stant superintendent in charge of adult education, reports that three schools in the Harbor and South Los Angeles area again will offer day and evening classes for adults during the school year which starts Sept. 16.

The schools are Banning Community Adult, 1500 N. Avalon Blvd., Wilmington; Gardena Community Adult, 1301 W. 182nd St.; and San Pedro Community Adult, 1001 W. 15th St., San Pedro.

Narbonne Students To Enroll

Students who will attend Narbonne High School and are new to the Los Angeles City Schools should be registering at the school this week. Hours are 9 to 11:30 a.m. each day.

Registration also is scheduled Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday, Sept. 10, 11 and 12, from 1 to 3 p.m.

New students who have not completed registration prior to the opening of classes should report to the attendance office Monday Sept. 16.

All students who attended Narbonne High School and those entering Narbonne from a Los Angeles city school will report to their first classes Monday, Sept. 16. Classes will meet for a minimum day—letting out at 12:30 p.m.—the first day.

offer classes in citizenship to assist immigrants in becoming naturalized American citizens."

Other subjects include fine arts, foreign language, business education, history, science, mathematics, drafting, clothing, industrial arts, and literature.

PRE-REGISTRATION at all city community adult schools will be held at each school beginning Monday, Sept. 9. Adults may continue to register after school begins through Sept. 20. Courses are open to any

person 18 years of age or older, but persons under 18 may enroll if they have a high school diploma or the approval of the school principal.

Counseling service is available at individual schools for those wishing advice on high school credits or other educational matters.

Johnston noted that the tuition fee for most classes is \$5.

Classes in citizenship English for the foreign speaking, elementary school level subjects, and parent education, however, are free.

Law School Will Start 43rd Year

Pacific Coast Law School of Long Beach will begin its 43rd year of continuous operation this coming academic year.

Registration is under way each Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday and Friday from 2 to 7 p.m. at 236 Newport Ave., Long Beach.

A catalog describing the subjects offered for both beginning and advanced law students is available upon request.

Classes are held on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday evenings from 6:30 to 10:10.

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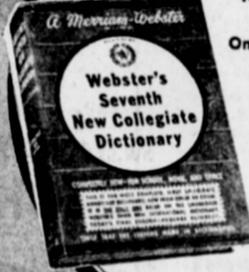
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